



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health and Family Services

Jim Doyle, Governor
Helene Nelson, Secretary

WIC and Immunization Programs

Change to Base	FY 04		FY 05	
	GPR	All Funds	GPR	All Funds
Savings from eliminating WIC outreach		(\$1,000,000)		(\$1,000,000)
Savings from eliminating Immunization outreach		(\$1,000,000)		(\$1,000,000)
Total Savings		(\$2,000,000)		(\$2,000,000)

Description of Proposal

- Eliminate \$2 million of federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding that currently supports the WIC and Immunization outreach programs.

Background

- The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provides supplemental food, health screening and nutrition education to approximately 100,500 low- and moderate-income participants in Wisconsin. The WIC program is federally funded by grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Services.
- The Department's Immunization Program is responsible for the statutorily mandated statewide program to eliminate a number of childhood diseases, including diphtheria, mumps, measles, and polio. The program is entirely federally funded.
- TANF funds are public assistance block grants provided by the federal government that may be used for a variety of public assistance, social service, and child care programs.
- Outreach programs for WIC and immunization are funded by TANF funds. Immunization funds are distributed to both local public health agencies and Federally Qualified Health Centers in an effort to reach higher risk populations. The immunization outreach program works to increase the percentage of preschool children who receive vaccinations, in particular those from high risk families.
- The WIC outreach program provides direct nutritional services to families with infants and young children, especially those at risk and to women with high risk pregnancies. It also collaborates with the immunization program to promote early vaccinations. TANF funding comprises approximately 7.5% of local WIC administrative funding.

Rationale for Proposal

- There are not enough funds to provide allocations on an on-going basis to all the programs previously funded by TANF. Priority must be given to the public assistance program W-2, child care, and other direct assistance programs.